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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Ilya Trakht et al.

Serial No.:

09/664,958

Examiner: L. R. Helms

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For:

NOVEL TUMOR-ASSOCIATED MARKER

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036

December 26, 2002

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

JAN 0 2 2003 TECH CENTER 1600/2002

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 26, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

This Amendment is submitted in response to the September 26, 2002 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the September 26, 2002 Office Action is due December 26, 2002. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. \$1.121(a) as indicated below. A marked-up copy of the amended portions of the specification is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

In the title:

On page 1, line 3, please delete the current title and replace it with the following: